SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 7 as follows:

[0023] An exception handling process in accordance with one embodiment is shown in Figure 1. The process begins with the detection of an exception 100 in response to execution of an instruction 102 contained in an instruction stream 104. The exception is internally handled by the processor, including saving the context of the currently-executing process corresponding to instruction stream 104. In general, a respective vector is assigned to each interrupt or exception programmed into the processor. For simplicity, only a set 106 [[up]] of exception vectors 108 are shown in Figure 1.